

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 070149
ORIGIN SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 R

DRAFTED BY EA/J:SMECTON:KAM
APPROVED BY EA:RHOLBROOKE
EA/J:UCHERMAN
T.:JNYE
S/S:PSEBASTIAN

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O 300130Z MAR 77
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY TOKYO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 070149

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: MNUC, PFOR, JA

SUBJECT: NUCLEAR POLICY

REF: TOKYO 4278

1. AMBASSADOR TOGO CALLED ON ASSISTANT SECRETARY AND JOE NYE ON MARCH 29 TO DISCUSS NUCLEAR POLICY "NON-PAPER" AND PROCEDURAL ASPECTS OF CONSULTATION. ASSISTANT SECRETARY STRESSED THAT PRIME MINISTER SHOULD KNOW THAT ALL LEVELS OF US GOVERNMENT NOW AWARE OF POLITICAL IMPORTANCE OF THE ISSUE. HE STRESSED THAT, TECHNICAL-POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS AT THE NYE-SCHEINMAN LEVEL SHOULD BEGIN IMMEDIATELY. ALTHOUGH SCHLESINGER, AS SENIOR US REPRESENTATIVE WOULD BE KEPT FULLY APPRISED OF DISCUSSIONS, THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY EXPRESSED HIS HOPE THAT 95 PERCENT OF THE WORK WOULD BE DONE AT THE CONSULTATIVE LEVEL. THE TIMING OF THE TALKS
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WOULD BE LEFT TO THE GOJ, AND COULD BEGIN AS SOON AS GOJ WANTED.

2. THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY SUGGESTED THAT IF THE GOJ WANTED TO RESPOND TO THE NUCLEAR "NON PAPER" THROUGH CHARGE SHOESMITH BEFORE CONSULTATIONS, THAT WOULD BE USEFUL. AMBASSADOR TOGO INDICATED THAT A RESPONSE WAS BEING PRE-

PARED.

3. THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY STRESSED THAT THE PRESIDENT'S STATEMENT MAY COME WITHIN A WEEK AND THAT HE WANTED TO UNDERLINE THAT THAT STATEMENT WILL NOT CONTAIN A DECISION ON OPERATIONS AT TOKAI MURA, OR ITS SAFEGUARDABILITY.

4. THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY SAID THAT THE "NON PAPER" INDICATES THE STRONG FEELING THE PRESIDENT HAS ON THE ISSUE. TECHNICAL-POLITICAL CONSULTATIONS COULD LEAD TO A COMPROMISE SOLUTION THAT WOULD RESPOND TO JAPAN'S POLITICAL NEEDS AND THE PRESIDENT'S GLOBAL OBJECTIVES.

5. AMBASSADOR TOGO SAID THAT TOKYO HAS A STRONG SENSE OF AN IMMINENT DECISION, AND THAT IMMEDIATE CONSULTATIONS WOULD BE HELPFUL. HE INDICATED THAT A TEAM WAS READY TO GO.

CHRISTOPHER

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, PRESIDENT, NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, NUCLEAR SAFEGUARDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 30-Mar-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 22 May 2009
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977STATE070149
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: SMECTON:KAM
Enclosure: PER EA:SMECTON
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770108-0284
Format: TEL
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions:
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t1977036/aaaaaetg.tel
Line Count: 80
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: d530f8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ORIGIN SS
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: EXDIS
Reference: 77 TOKYO 4278
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 15-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 3108244
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: NUCLEAR POLICY
TAGS: MNUC, PFOR, PARM, JA, US
To: TOKYO
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odb://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/d530f8b7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009